



Things to Do Before Training

- ▶ Have crew bring personal fall protection equipment being used. Have manufacturers' inspection instructions to go over with crew.
- ▶ Be prepared to talk about how the company provides fall protection training to employees.
- ▶ Be prepared to talk about how the company provides, stores, and replaces personal fall protection equipment.
- ▶ In the index of the **Cal/OSHA Pocket Guide for the Construction Industry**, look up **Fall Protection** and read the pages listed.

Introduction

Falls are the leading cause of workplace death in construction. In general, fall protection is required when workers are around edges, openings, or steeply sloped surfaces that could lead to a fall of more than 7 1/2 feet. Some workers complain that this equipment is awkward or gets in the way, but it's better than taking a fall.

QUESTIONS TO ASK

- ▶ Have you or anyone you know had a fall on the job? What could have been done to prevent it?
- ▶ What do we look for when doing the daily inspection of personal fall protection equipment? (Check manufacturer's list to see if anything gets missed.)
- ▶ Are there any problems with the fall protection effort on this job? How can these problems be dealt with?



ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Ask whether anybody has *not* gotten company training on the fall protection being used on the job.
- ▶ Have workers inspect their fall protection gear for wear and damage.
- ▶ Replace any missing or damaged fall protection equipment.

Key Points to Keep in Mind

- ☐ Where possible, **it is best to eliminate the need for fall protection by installing guardrails**, barriers, covers, or scaffolding.
- ☐ **Employers are required to provide fall protection training** covering the company's fall protection policies, general and specific safe work practices, hazard identification and correction; and the selection, use, and maintenance of equipment.
- ☐ **Fall protection equipment should be inspected before each use** for wear and damage.
- ☐ Fall protection equipment should be **inspected at least twice a year by a competent person** following the manufacturers' recommendations.